

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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NEW ORLEANS PAIR SENTENCED FOR METHAMPHETAMINE CONSPIRACY

Orlando, Florida - U.S. District Judge Gregory A. Presnell, today sentenced Christopher David Brown to six years' imprisonment for conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 or more grams of methamphetamine. A co-defendant in the case, Gregory Joseph White, Jr., was sentenced to five years imprisonment by Judge Presnell three weeks ago.

Brown was found guilty on September 18, 2006, following entry of his guilty plea on September 15, 2006. Greg White pleaded guilty to the same charge.

According to court documents, the pair moved to Orlando, Florida, from New Orleans, Louisiana, sometime shortly after Hurricane Katrina made landfall in late August 2005.

Brown and White obtained large quantities of methamphetamine from different sources of supply, including one in Phoenix, Arizona. Brown and White regularly sold and distributed this methamphetamine to friends and customers in Orlando, Orange County, Florida, and elsewhere. Some of those customers were confidential informants for the

Orlando Police Department.

On or about November 14, 2005, White traveled to Phoenix via commercial air line to obtain methamphetamine to transport back to Orlando. On other occasions, methamphetamine was ground shipped to Brown and White via commercial courier services, and the defendants utilized their computers and the internet to track packages.

On January 31, 2006, White walked out of their apartment carrying a backpack. He put the backpack in the Lexus IS300 registered in his name in Texas, and drove away. At approximately 6:30 p.m., officers with the Orlando Police Department stopped White within city limits for driving with an expired license tag. During questioning by an officer, White was not able to produce a valid driver license and he told the officer that he had lost it during Hurricane Katrina, but that he manufactured a driver license as a replacement. A K-9 dog and his handler were called to the scene, and upon examining the car the dog alerted. The officers searched the car and found the backpack in the trunk. Further search of the backpack revealed two digital scales, several containers with suspected methamphetamine, and several containers with suspected GHB. The suspected methamphetamine was tested at the DEA laboratory and confirmed as containing methamphetamine hydrochloride, with a net weight of 73.5 grams at 70% purity, for 51.4 grams of actual drug.

The case was investigated by the Orlando Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Bruce S. Ambrose.